

Department of Veterans Affairs Specially Adapted Housing

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Objectives

- What is Specially Adapted Housing (SAH)?
- Basic Eligibility
- Grant Approval Process
- Associated Programs
- Contacts and Resources



What is Specially Adapted Housing?

- Offered by The Department of Veterans Affairs
 - 3 Grant programs
 - Specially Adapted Housing (SAH)
 - Special Home Adaptation (SHA)
 - Temporary Residence Adaptation (TRA)

SAH Eligibility

Eligibility Requirement:

- The loss or loss of use of both lower extremities, or
- The loss or loss of use of both upper extremities, or
- Blindness in both eyes plus loss or loss of use of 1 lower extremity, or
- The loss or loss of use of 1 lower extremity together with:
 - residuals of organic disease or injury or the loss or loss of use of 1 upper extremity.

SAH Eligibility (cont)

- It must be medically feasible for the veteran to reside in the house
- The house must be adapted for the veteran's needs so that it is suitable for dwelling purposes
- The maximum grant amount for the SAH grant is currently \$64,960.



SHA Eligibility

- Blindness in both eyes with 5/200 visual acuity or less, or
- Anatomical loss or loss of use of both hands (below the elbow), or
- The permanent and total disability is due to a severe burn injury, or
- The maximum grant amount for the SHA grant is currently \$12,992.

Application for SAH/SHA

- VA form 26-4555 received.
- Veteran rated for program.
- Initial Interview and feasibility study completed.



The Construction Process

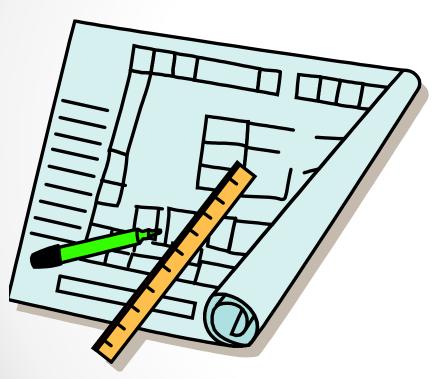
The SAH 'construction process' can be broken down into four distinct processes:

- Phase 1 The 'planning' stage
- Phase 2 The 'bidding' process
- Phase 3 Submission of Grant for approval
- Phase 4 Notification of Grant Approval & Construction

Planning Stage

- Veteran and her/his family become familiar with the VA Minimum Property Requirements (MPRs) for the grant program and what adaptations will be required.
- Veteran explores options and decides how to utilize the grant.

Bidding Process



- Veteran obtains a minimum of three bids from contractors for the project.
- Veteran completes required paperwork.
- Plans and specifications reviewed by SAH agent.

Submission of Grant for Approval

- Agent assembles grant approval file.
- All documents from veteran received.
- All contractor documents received.
- Any required waivers obtained.
- Supervisor review for grant approval.

Notification of Grant Approval & Construction

- Veteran notified of grant approval
- Escrow set up
- Construction begins
- Compliance inspections completed
- Veteran satisfaction 20% hold back funds released

Other Programs Available

- Home Improvements and Structural Alterations (HISA) program
 - Service provided by Prosthetic and Sensory Aid
 - Website: http://www.prosthetics.va.gov/
- Independent Living Program
 - Service provided by Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment



Contact Information

Construction and Valuation:

Toll free: 800-827-0611 Extension 2

Email: vaappraisal.stpaul@va.gov

Mailing Address: Department of Veterans Affairs
1 Federal Drive
St. Paul, MN 55111

Website: www.vba.va.gov/rostpaul.htm

Useful Links

Veteran Affairs Home Loan Website:

http://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/

Specially Adapted Housing Home Page:

http://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/sah_info.asp

Handbook for Design:

http://www.benefits.va.gov/homeloans/docs/vapamphlet __26-13.pdf



Thank you for your service! Any Questions?